



Dec. 7, 2012

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***Sealth* temporarily removed from service**

The 1,200-passenger/90-car *Sealth* has been temporarily removed from service due to a leaking seam in the hull on the No. 2 end on the port side of the vessel, discovered by staff during a routine inspection. We are making arrangements with Dakota Creek Shipyard in Anacortes to perform an emergency drydocking to repair the leak. As a result, there will be vessel moves on the following routes:

Bremerton/Seattle

The 750-passenger/64-car *Salish* will replace the *Sealth* on the Bremerton/Seattle route this afternoon and will remain there through Sunday. On Monday, Dec. 10, the 1,200-passenger/124-car *Issaquah* will replace the *Salish*. Customers should anticipate long lines on the route over the weekend. Wi-fi and galley service will not be available on the *Salish*, and there are limited vending machine choices available. Wi-fi will be available on the *Issaquah*; however, galley service may not be available at the beginning of the week.

Fauntleroy/Vashon Island/Southworth

The *Salish* will replace the *Issaquah* beginning Monday, Dec. 10 for approximately one week. Customers should anticipate long lines on the route during this time. Wi-fi will not be available on the *Salish*.

I recognize that these vessel moves and capacity changes pose a hardship on our customers. We are working to return the *Sealth* to service as quickly as possible.

Expect more crew on some ferries

The Jumbo, Super, Issaquah and Evergreen State [ferry classes](#) have new staffing requirements per a directive from the U.S. Coast Guard. We have already added two crewmembers to the Issaquah ferry and will implement the new staffing levels for the others once the USCG issues the revised certificate of inspection for each vessel. The USCG is also adjusting its requirements for staffing levels based on the number of passengers carried on the Super, Issaquah and Evergreen State class vessels. For example, on some sailings where our passenger numbers are routinely low, we may be able to sail with one fewer crew member, making the system more cost-effective. We are in the process of analyzing the opportunities and costs associated with these revisions.

Community meetings update

This week we held three community meetings: Southworth (Dec. 3), Kingston (Dec. 4) and San Juan Islands (Dec. 6). I want to thank everyone who took the time out of their busy schedule to attend. I especially appreciate our Ferry Advisory Committee members for participating and helping organize these meetings. My last community meeting is Monday, Dec. 10, in Port Townsend. I will be speaking to the Jefferson County Chambers at their regularly scheduled meeting. For meeting materials, please visit us [online](#).

Go Somewhere

This week WSF launched its community marketing campaign [Go Somewhere](#) in partnership with our ferry-served visitors bureaus and chambers of commerce. Campaign posters are visible on all WSF vessels and terminals and highlight the different routes and communities that can be reached via ferry. The campaign is the product of our community marketing group that formed in March, led by WSF Director of Communications Marta Coursey. I

encourage you to check out the posters next time you travel aboard WSF; you just may find a reason to visit one of our many community gems scattered throughout the Sound.

Life Ring Award Lunches

This week we honored WSF's Seattle/Bainbridge "[A" watch](#) at a Life Ring Award Lunch for a remarkable rescue operation the evening of May 26 (first reported in my [June 8th](#) weekly email). Last week, we honored the extraordinary efforts of WSF's Edmonds/Kingston "C" watch, including 2nd Mate Peter Malek and Ordinary Seamen Robert Schneider, Susan Welch and Jeffery Bradley, in assisting a passenger who collapsed and stopped breathing on Feb. 17 (first reported in my [Feb. 24th](#) weekly email). WSF Deputy Chief George Capacci, WSF Director of Operations Steve Rodgers, and I treated our heroes to lunch in recognition of their efforts to assist these passengers in need. Congratulations on a job well done!

Joint Transportation Committee presentation

On Wednesday I presented to the Joint Transportation Committee on the outcome of our discussions with B.C. Ferries (BCF) on joint vessel procurement. The legislature directed WSF to explore this issue with BCF to see if we could jointly build 144-car ferries. BCF indicated that at this time a joint vessel procurement would not benefit their system due to several factors, including federal law requiring WSF to build vessels in the United States, varying vessel capacity and dock fitting requirements, and differing passenger amenities. However, WSF will continue to partner and exchange information with BCF on ferry system issues of mutual interest. You may view my presentation on [TVW](#).

San Juan Islands VRS Partnership Meeting

I participated in the second meeting of the San Juan Islands Vehicle Reservations Partnership on Thursday. We are planning the second phase of the reservations program, which includes expanding reservations to the San Juan Islands routes. We convened the partnership group to gather input on feasibility, system design, business rules, and policy decisions. I greatly appreciate the time and dedication of the partnership members. Visit us [online](#) for meeting materials and more information about vehicle reservations

WSF embraces the holiday spirit

Today, WSF employees participated in [KIRO's Toys for Tots drive](#). I want to thank all ferry employees who contributed the more than \$600 and more than 40 bags of toys to this wonderful cause. Happy holidays!

Discounted ferry gear available for a limited time

Just in time for the holidays, [www.ferrygear.com](#) is having a sale! Act today and you can get 30 percent off your entire order of unique WSF merchandise (which includes already-discounted items). Use promo code: HolidayPromotion

Ferry rides

On Monday I traveled aboard the *Klahowya* with Captain Greg Sugden and crew en route to a Southworth community meeting. On Tuesday I rode the *Kaleetan* with Captain Kirk Peterson and crew on my way to the Kingston community meeting. Yesterday, in my island travels for both the vehicle reservations partnership and community meetings, I rode the *Elwha* with Captain Jonathan Tegnell to Friday Harbor.

Customer compliment

I received the following compliment from a customer of the Edmonds/Kingston route. I want to thank the terminal staff, Captain Kirk Peterson and "B" watch for helping out this customer in need.

My father went into emergency surgery Monday night...My sister, brother-in-law and I raced to the Edmonds ferry in two cars, they made it at 11:42 I was 2 minutes behind...my sister who spoke with the crew members loading telling them where I was and how our day had gone, and they spoke with the captain. [The ferry] waited and let me board! I just wanted to say thank you!!! They didn't know me, they didn't know if we were telling them the truth, out of the goodness in their hearts they waited 2 minutes and let me board! I can't say enough how much I appreciate all they did...thanks to the Captain and B-watch on the Edmonds/Kingston 11:45 [p.m.] run on Nov. 26.

Next Week:

- [Community meeting](#): Jefferson County Chambers of Commerce in Port Townsend (Dec. 10)
- Life Ring Award Lunch ceremony
- Ferry Advisory Committee Executive Council meeting

David Moseley's weekly updates are available on the WSDOT Ferries Division website at [www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/weekly](#).

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